

they continue to make a tangible difference in the lives of more than 46 million Americans who live in poverty. VISTA focuses on providing structural support for low-income communities in order to fight illiteracy, improve health services and foster economic development.

In Washington's 9th Congressional District, VISTA members work with several service organizations in the community. In partnership with the United Way of King County, volunteers help mentor students, advocate for the homeless and provide families with social services. Through their selfless service, VISTA members and volunteers have improved the quality of life for many in our community and continue to be a vital force in the fight against poverty.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize AmeriCorps VISTA for its fifty years of service to our nation. VISTA members have set the standard for meaningful volunteer mobilization. I look forward to hearing about the future progress and success of VISTA for many years to come.

CATHERINE "KAY" SANTANGELO
NEST

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Catherine "Kay" Santangelo Nest who will celebrate her 80th birthday and be honored for a lifetime of dedicated community service and accomplishments tomorrow, Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at the Fort Lee Senior Center in Fort Lee, NJ.

Kay Nest was born and raised in West New York, NJ where she learned the value of community and fighting for a greater cause. Kay's father was an attorney who often donated his services to those who couldn't afford them and her mother worked for the West New York Board of Health for over 50 years. Kay's parents devoted much of their time volunteering for charitable and political causes and always lending a helping hand to those in need, so it does not come as a surprise that Kay has become the outstanding individual that she is today.

I am proud to say that Kay and I share the same Alma Mater, Fordham University, where she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education. Soon after, she married her husband Richard A. Nest, the late Mayor of Fort Lee, and they had their first and only child Richard B. Nest.

Kay has been a past president of UNICO, Palisades General Hospital Women's Auxiliary, the Friends of Fort Lee Public Library, and the Lions Club. She also served as a Trustee on the Board of Palisades General Hospital, the Chairperson of the Fort Lee Democratic Municipal Committee, Vice Chairman of the Bergen County Democratic Organization, Chairperson of the Fort Lee Parking Authority, Director of Fort Lee Citizen Council, and Chairperson of Fort Lee Housing Authority. Moreover, while taking up leadership positions in different organizations Kay still found the time to help all people in need, regardless of their stature in society.

Kay's love for helping others is what motivated her to enter life in politics. However, she

did not intend to go into politics herself but rather, to make sure that those who were elected to office provided new programs that helped those who were less fortunate and served the people who elected them. Kay was the passionate voice that brought Fort Lee its first two Senior Citizen Housing Apartments and a fully operational Senior Citizen Center along with it, ensuring that the elderly receive the proper care they deserve.

Kay exhibits the qualities of an individual we all strive to be more like. Her philanthropic work in her community has been recognized and led to her being named the 2006 Person of the Year by the Fort Lee Rotary Club in honor of her dedicated and outstanding service to her community at large over the years.

Kay is someone everyone in society can aspire to emulate. I have known Kay Nest for many years as a friend and as a fellow public servant. I have always admired Kay and she has truly brightened our world with her compassion and kind nature.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of individuals such as Kay Nest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Kay's coworkers, family and friends, all those whose lives she has touched, and me, in recognizing the work of Mrs. Catherine "Kay" Santangelo Nest.

THE AMERICAN HEALTH SECURITY ACT OF 2015

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the American Health Security Act of 2015, legislation to provide comprehensive health coverage to every American and recognize that health care is a human right.

The Affordable Care Act was a dramatic step forward in improving the health security of the American people. This landmark law has expanded access to coverage, improved the solvency of our public programs, and made numerous reforms that have saved consumers billions of dollars. As we look for ways to build upon and strengthen the law, we must recognize that millions of Americans continue to fall through the cracks in the private health insurance market. The only way to truly ensure that access to quality health care is a right enjoyed by every American is through a single-payer system.

The American Health Security Act builds upon the success of the Affordable Care Act by providing universal health coverage to all Americans. It creates a framework that allows states to administer their own universal health insurance systems, subject to rigorous federal standards. Benefits would be comprehensive, costs would be contained, and patients would have full choice of doctor and hospital. This universal model would put an end to the inequities that continue to plague our system and jeopardize the health security of American families.

A TRIBUTE TO MARK BAUDLER IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Baudler for being awarded the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Mark was selected for this honor because of his diligent work on a greenhouse for the Nodaway Valley High School. He planned, organized, fundraised and supervised the construction for separate Eagle Scout and FFA projects.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Award is a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. I am proud to see such a strong volunteer spirit in the youth of the 3rd district of Iowa and applaud his parents, Ron and Susan Baudler, teachers and community members that have exemplified volunteerism to Mark.

I know that all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating him on being recognized with this award, and I wish him continued success in his future education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to have it noted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that I was unable to vote on the Homeland Security Department Continuing Resolution last Friday night due to previously scheduled events held in my district in Houston.

One of my biggest priorities as a Member of this Chamber is being present for every vote. I hope that the majority will make sure that future votes are held during scheduled times.

If I had been available Friday evening, I would have voted "yea."

UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL—AND NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT IRAN'S MURDEROUS INTENTIONS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my colleague, Mr. STEWART, for reserving this time to send a message of vigorous, unequivocal, and unflinching U.S. support for Israel.

Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Prime Minister Netanyahu's historic address, we have to join his efforts to set the focus on the existential, genocidal threat Iran poses to Israel.

We have to be realistic about Iranian President Rouhani because many in the media—and some in the administration—have been reluctant to do that. Rouhani has a long history of murderous anti-Semitism and anti-